

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1620
ANSWERED ON:02.08.2000
PUBLICATION OF MAP
PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any relation between WWF India and WWF International;
- (b) if so, the details thereof ;
- (c) whether the Union Government have any information with regard to world map published by WWF International; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof including the government's response thereto.

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA)

(a) & (b) : The World Wide Fund for Nature - India (WWF-India) is a non-governmental organisation dealing with nature conservation, environmental protection and development related issues. The organisation is part of the WWF family with 27 independent national organisations. According to WWF -India, WWF-International is the coordinating body for the WWF family of organisations.

(c) & (d) : Yes, Sir. WWF-International's Global 200 eco-region map wrongly depicted India's national boundaries. The matter was taken up with WWF International who acknowledged the lapse and tendered an apology. WWF-International conveyed that in future maps, including the Global 200 map, care would be taken not to cause offence. Government has stressed the need for a comprehensive solution to the problem and reiterated the importance it attaches to the correct depiction of India's national boundaries.